

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Volunteer Program

Building a Community of Park Stewards



Cuyahoga Valley National Park Internship Opportunity

- Position Title:** Crooked River Cooperative Weed Management Area Crew (11 Positions)
- Dates of Internship:** Approximately late May-mid August
- Hours:** 24 hours per week. Flexible Schedule, potentially weekends
- Location:** Four crews will be spread between four counties within the Cuyahoga River watershed: Summit County, Cuyahoga County, Geauga County, and Portage County.
- Duties:** Crew members work with park and partner staff and volunteers on exotic plant management control at a variety of sites within the Cuyahoga River watershed under the direction of the Crooked River Cooperative Weed Management Area Crew Leaders. Crew members will assist with many aspects of invasive plant control and removal including but not limited to manual removal, chemical application of herbicides using backpack sprayers and hand sprayers, and using hand and power tools to remove woody invasive species. Crew may have opportunities to assist with other aspects of vegetation management including collecting native seeds; propagating native plants; preparing sites for planting; and planting native plants at restoration sites. Crew members will also be responsible for collecting field data using standardized forms and GPS units. Interns and park staff often work with large groups of volunteers. The work involves carrying heavy loads, bending and stooping, and wearing long-sleeve shirts and rubber gloves in hot and humid weather. Crew members will work in proximity to poison ivy, stinging insects, plants with thorns, and wildlife. Interns may also undertake independent, solitary projects.
- Skills Required:** Background in biological science or park management with interest in fieldwork. Self motivation, conscientiousness, patience, and ability to work independently and with large groups.
- Requirements:** Applicants must complete a National Park Service Volunteer-in-Parks Agreement and may be subject to a background investigation. U.S. citizenship, valid driver's license, and reliable transportation required. Must be a current Kent State University student.
- Local candidates only.
- Salary/Benefits:** \$10/hour. Student may obtain internship credit with university upon approval of academic advisor. Interns are eligible for injury compensation and tort claims the same as federal employees and are considered to be federal employees for those purposes only.
- Outcomes:** Result of internship will be practical experience controlling invasive plant species with a Federal, State, or Local land management agency. Agency staff and crew leader will train crew members to (1) identify invasive plants; (2) understand methods to manage exotic plants using chemical and mechanical techniques; and (3) use GPS monitoring technology.
- How to Apply:** Send résumé and cover letter to apply@forcvnp.org with the position title as subject line by April 30. Please indicate your geographic preference(s) in your cover letter.

